

Message Text

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11

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 BIB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAM-01 /055 W

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O 151108Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4960

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 1979

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SP

SUBJECT: RADIO LIBERTY

1. WHEN I SAW FOREIGN MINISTER AREILZA MARCH 13 HE CONFIRMED THAT HE WOULD BE GLAD TO SEE ABSHIRE MARCH 17 TO DISCUSS WHAT POSSIBILITIES THERE MIGHT BE FOR AGREEING ON AN EXTENSION OF RADIO LIBERTY. HE MADE CLEAR AGAIN THAT A NEW CONTRACT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE. HE RECALLED THAT ALTHOUGH THE DECISION HAD BEEN MADE TO CLOSE RADIO LIBERTY ON MARCH 23 HE HAD THOUGHT IT ONLY REASONABLE NOT TO DO SO IN LIGHT OF THE PRESENTATIONS WE HAD MADE TO HIM. ON THE OTHER HAND HE CONTINUES TO EXPRESS THE VIEW THAT THE EVENTUAL CLOSURE OF RADIO LIBERTY MIGHT BE USEFUL TO SPAIN BOTH IN CONNECTION WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS WITH MOSCOW AND WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF CLOSING DOWN ROMANIA'S "RADIO INDEPENDIENTE". I AGAIN WENT OVER WITH HIM THE REASONS WHY WE FELT THIS WAS THE WRONG APPROACH, CITING THE GERMAN AND PORTUGUESE EXAMPLES THE FACT OTHER COUNTRIES WERE INVOLVED IN EFFORTS TO LESSEN TENSIONS BUT WITHOUT TYING THEIR HANDS WITH REPECT TO DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION BROADCAST BY RADIO, AND REFERENCES TO THESE QUESTIONS IN THE HELSINKI DECLARATIONS.

2. AREILZA GAVE NO FURTHER INDICATION REGARDING THE
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LENGTH IF TIME OF AN EXTENSION,BUT STRESSED THAT HE WAS

QUITE PREPARED TO DISCUSS THIS ENTIRE QUESTION FULLY WITH
ABSHIRE AND ME ON WEDNESDAY.
STABLER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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